

Niki Bernier is a vocalist and music educator based in Bismarck, ND. As a diverse performer, she is comfortable in jazz, classical, and contemporary settings. Niki has sung with the *BisMan Big Band*, *The Gospel According to Jazz*, *Big Al's Big Band*, the *University of Mary Jazz Band*, the *Brickhouse Combo*, and freelances as a classical and jazz vocalist. In December 2013, she was featured as the Alto soloist in Bismarck's production of Handel's *Messiah*. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music Education and a Bachelor's degree in Audio Production from Minnesota State University Moorhead. She also completed her Master of Arts degree in Music Education from the University of Iowa in 2011. She is a Kodály and Orff-Schulwerk certified elementary music specialist. Niki teaches elementary music methods at the University of Mary and is the course director for the University of Mary Orff-Schulwerk summer courses. She will start her twelfth year of teaching in August 2018 at Fort Lincoln Elementary in Mandan, ND where she teaches kindergarten through fifth grade music. She has studied voice with Dr. Jenny Dufault, Dr. David Ferreira, and Dr. Katherine Eberle.